

GOVERNOR LARRY HOGAN · CHAIRMAN TAWANNA P. GAINES
GOVERNOR JOHN CARNEY · MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER
GOVERNOR TOM WOLF · GOVERNOR RALPH S. NORTHAM

April 2, 2019

Chairman Richard Shelby
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Room S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Chairwoman Nita Lowey
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Vice Chairman Patrick Leahy
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Room S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Ranking Member Kay Granger
House Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Shelby, Vice Chairman Leahy, Chairwoman Lowey and Ranking Member Granger:


As members of the Executive Council (EC) of the Chesapeake Bay Program, we write today to urge you to oppose devastating cuts to Chesapeake Bay Program funding proposed in the President's Fiscal Year 2020 budget and to fight to increase program funding from \$73 million to \$90 million. The EC includes the governors of the six watershed states, the mayor of the District of Columbia, the chair of the Chesapeake Bay Commission and the administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency responsible for guiding restoration and protection of the Chesapeake Bay.

Today, we stand at a critical juncture in Chesapeake Bay restoration with the goal of clean water in sight. After three decades of collaboration with our federal and jurisdiction partners we are witnessing measured improvements towards clean water, increased resiliency to a changing climate, and the economic value of a healthier ecosystem.

While we have made significant progress, we are still short of our collective goals. As this watershed partnership quickly approaches its 2025 restoration milestone, additional funding is needed to support local government implementation programs, state based targeted implementation, and continued monitoring and analysis which is central to measuring and directing our restoration actions. This increased federal support and investment in Chesapeake Bay restoration is critical to sustaining the healthy signs of recovery we are now seeing in this national treasure.

Today, the partnership is demonstrating a need for increased federal assistance to reach our clean water goal. We respectfully ask Congress to consider this \$90 million as part of a final push for restoring the Bay that has been central to our nation's history, founding, and economic prosperity.

Sincerely,



Larry Hogan
Governor, State of Maryland (EC Chair)



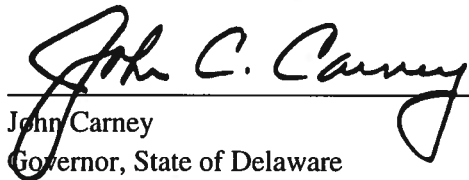
Muriel Bowser
Mayor, District of Columbia



Tawanna P. Gaines
Chair, Chesapeake Bay Commission



Tom Wolf
Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



John Carney
Governor, State of Delaware



Ralph S. Northam
Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia